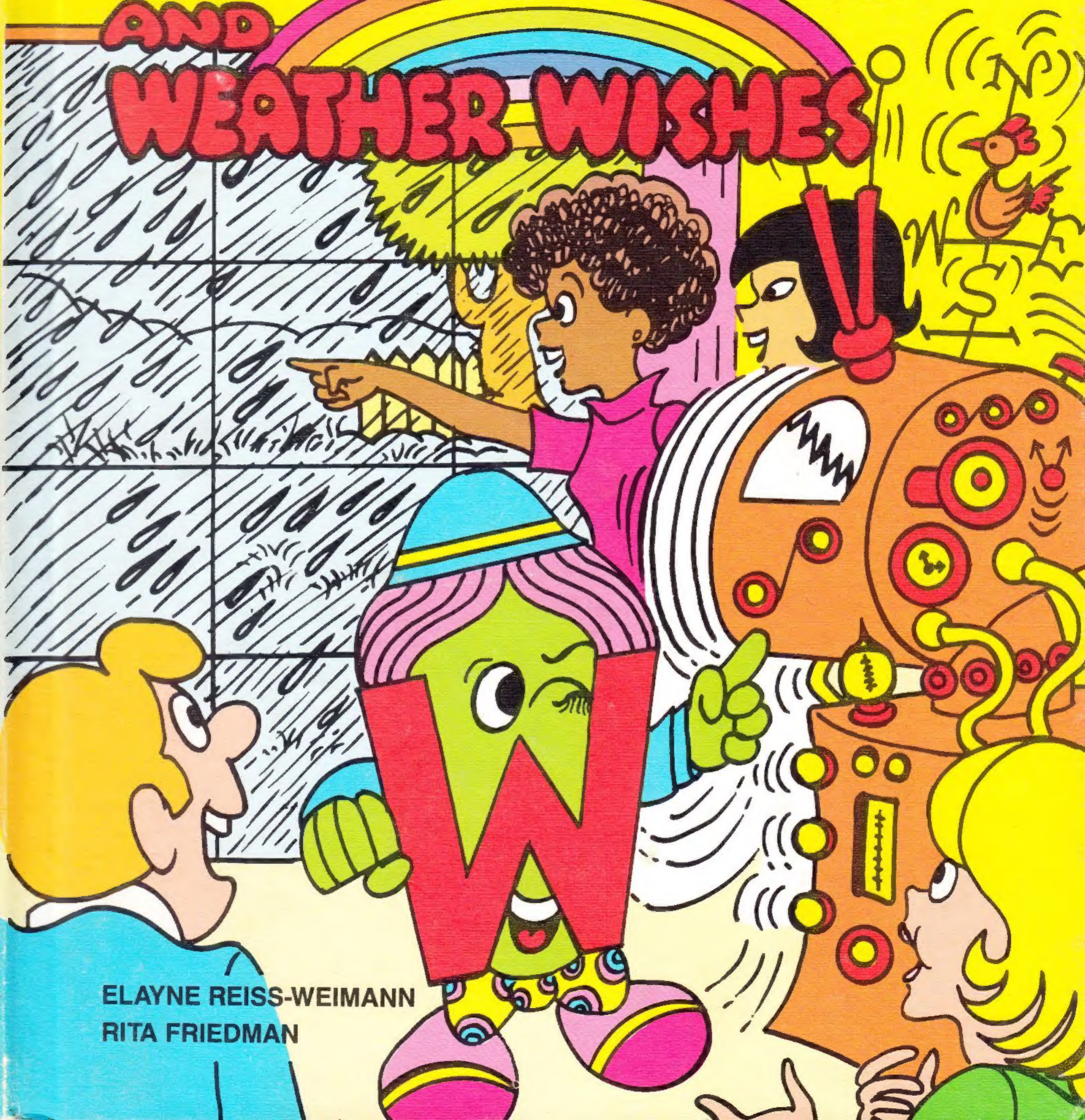
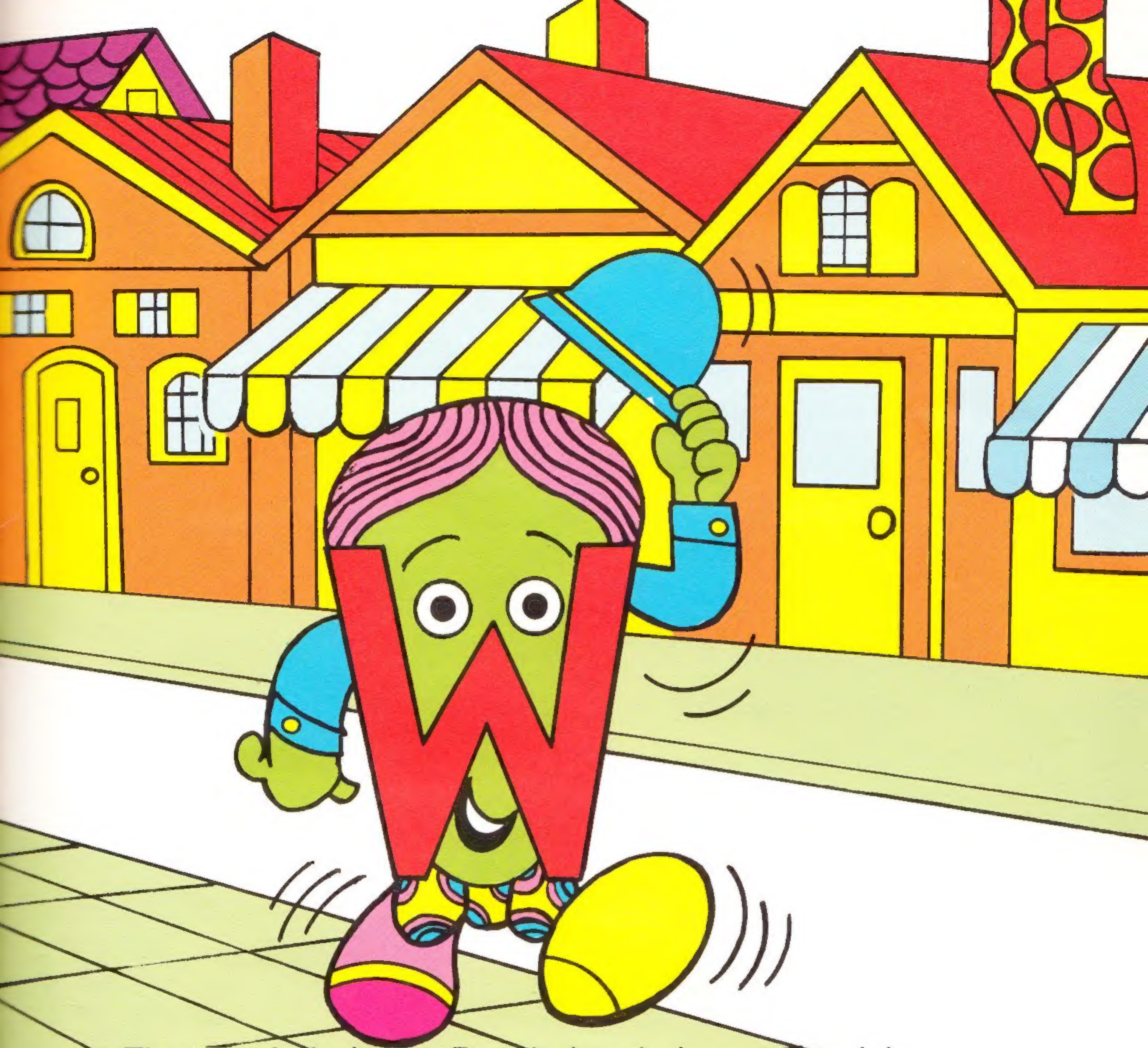


WONDERFUL WINKS AND WEATHER WISHES



ELAYNE REISS-WEIMANN
RITA FRIEDMAN



The people in Letter People Land always complain about the weather.

One day, a new letter person arrives.

His name is Mr. W.

Mr. W can change the weather.

“Welcome to Letter People Land,” say the people.
“Thank you,” says Mr. W.
“I have come to change the weather.”
“How can you change the weather?” ask the people.
“I have a magical weather machine,” explains Mr. W.
“I can grant weather wishes.”
Mr. W shows everyone an amazing weather machine.



“What can this weather machine do?” ask the people.

“This weather machine grants weather wishes. However, it only works with my wonderful wink. Watch and I will show you,” smiles Mr. W.

“What is today’s weather?”

“It is very dry,” says Wendy.

“We need rain.”

“Do not worry.

You will have rain,” says Mr. W.



Everyone watches Mr. W.
“Weather machine, we want a weather wish,”
says Mr. W.
“We want wet weather.”
Everyone watches and waits.
Mr. W winks a wonderful wink.
The weather machine starts to wiggle and wobble.
“Look!” shouts Wendy.
“It is raining.”



“Mr. W, you are wonderful!” shout the people.
“Wet weather is just what we need.”
Everyone leaves feeling very happy.
Mr. W is very happy, too.
“I feel wonderful,” he says.
“I helped the people when they needed wet weather.”
However, people are not happy for long.



A group of skiers comes to Mr. W's house.
"Mr. W," they say, "we want a weather wish.
We want winter weather with snow."
"I can grant your weather wish," says Mr. W.
"But think about the other people
in Letter People Land.
Remember, it is summer.
No one will be ready for winter weather."
The skiers do not want to hear what Mr. W is saying.
They are only thinking about themselves.



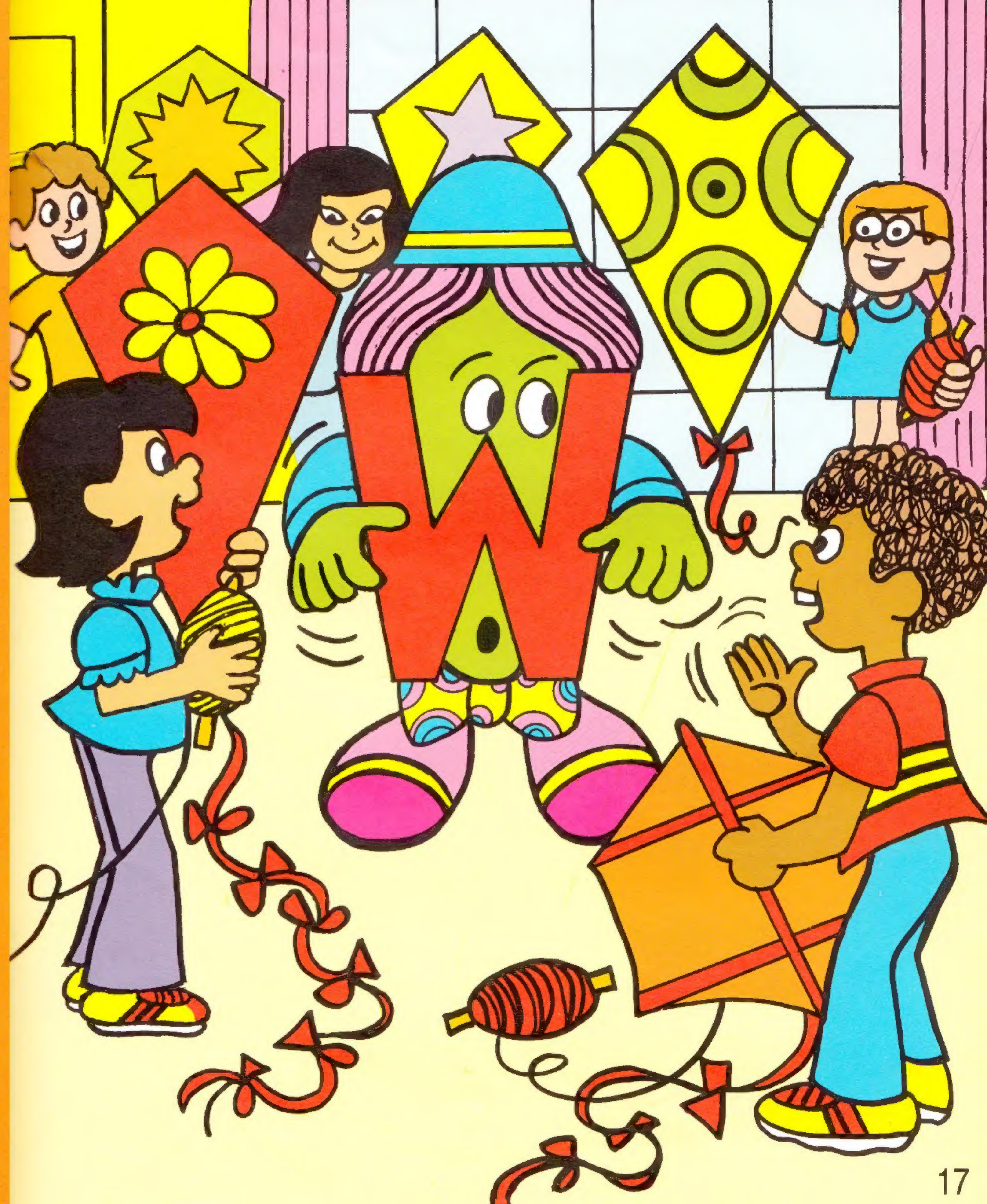
"I will grant your weather wish," says Mr. W sadly.
"Weather machine, we want a weather wish," he says.
"We want winter weather with snow."
Mr. W winks three wonderful winks.
The weather machine starts to wiggle and wobble.
"Look!" shouts a skier.
"It is snowing."
The skiers thank Mr. W and rush away to ski.



Letter People Land is not prepared for winter weather.
People are not wearing warm clothing.
They all catch colds.
Cars do not have snow tires.
They get stuck in the snow.
Everyone is angry at Mr. W.
“We do not want winter weather in the summer,”
they say.
Mr. W does not say a word.
He winks wonderful winks and changes the weather
back to summer.



“Maybe now people will think about others before they ask for a weather wish,” says Mr. W. Weeks pass. No one asks for a weather wish. “I do not have to worry anymore,” thinks Mr. W. Then one day, a group of children comes to see Mr. W. “Mr. W, we want a weather wish,” they say.



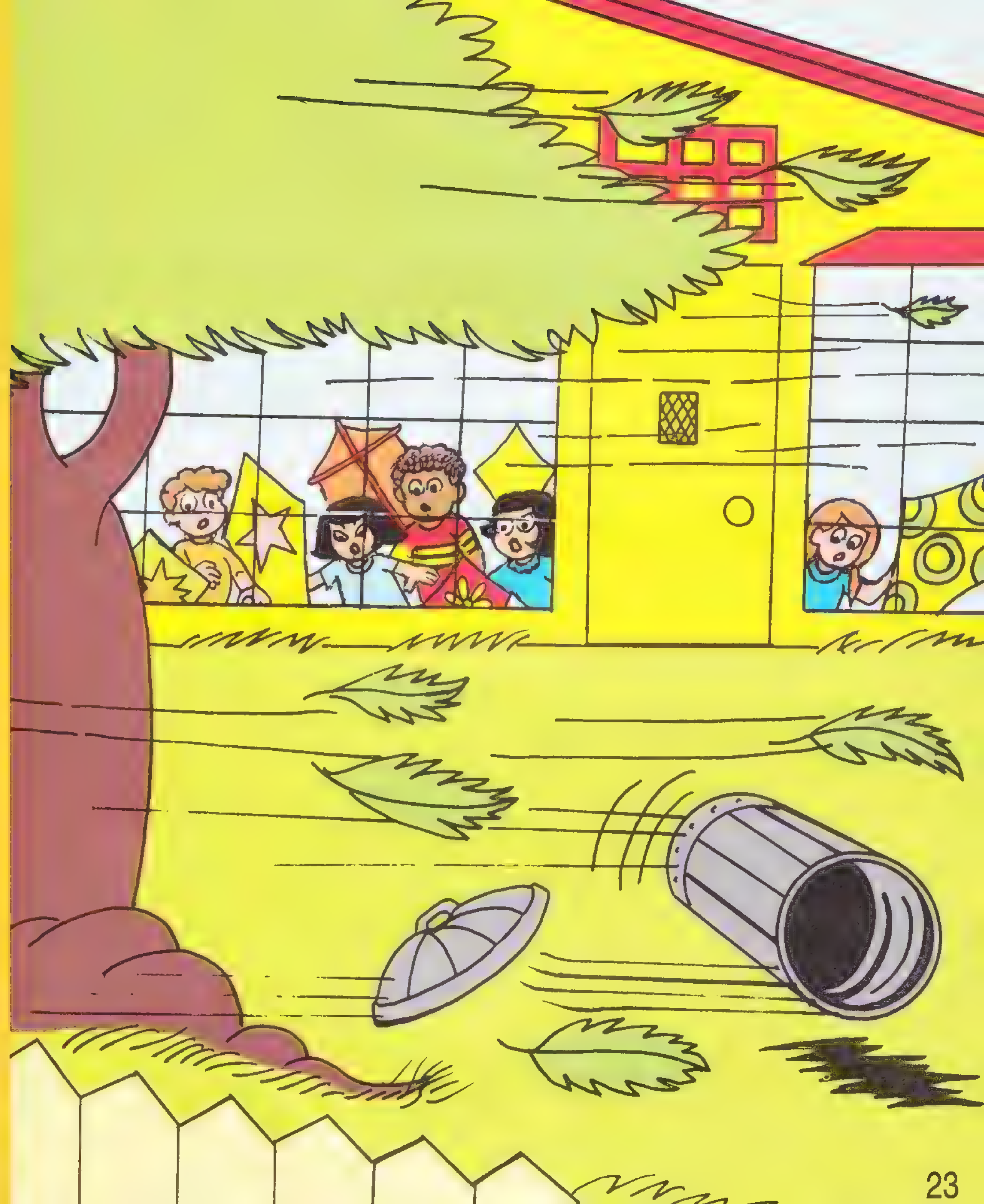
“What is your weather wish?” asks Mr. W.
“We want windy weather,” answer the children.
“We want to practice flying kites.”
“I can grant your weather wish,” says Mr. W.
“But are you thinking about the other people
in Letter People Land?
Remember what happened when I granted
a weather wish to the skiers.”
The children do not want to hear what Mr. W is saying.
They only think about themselves.



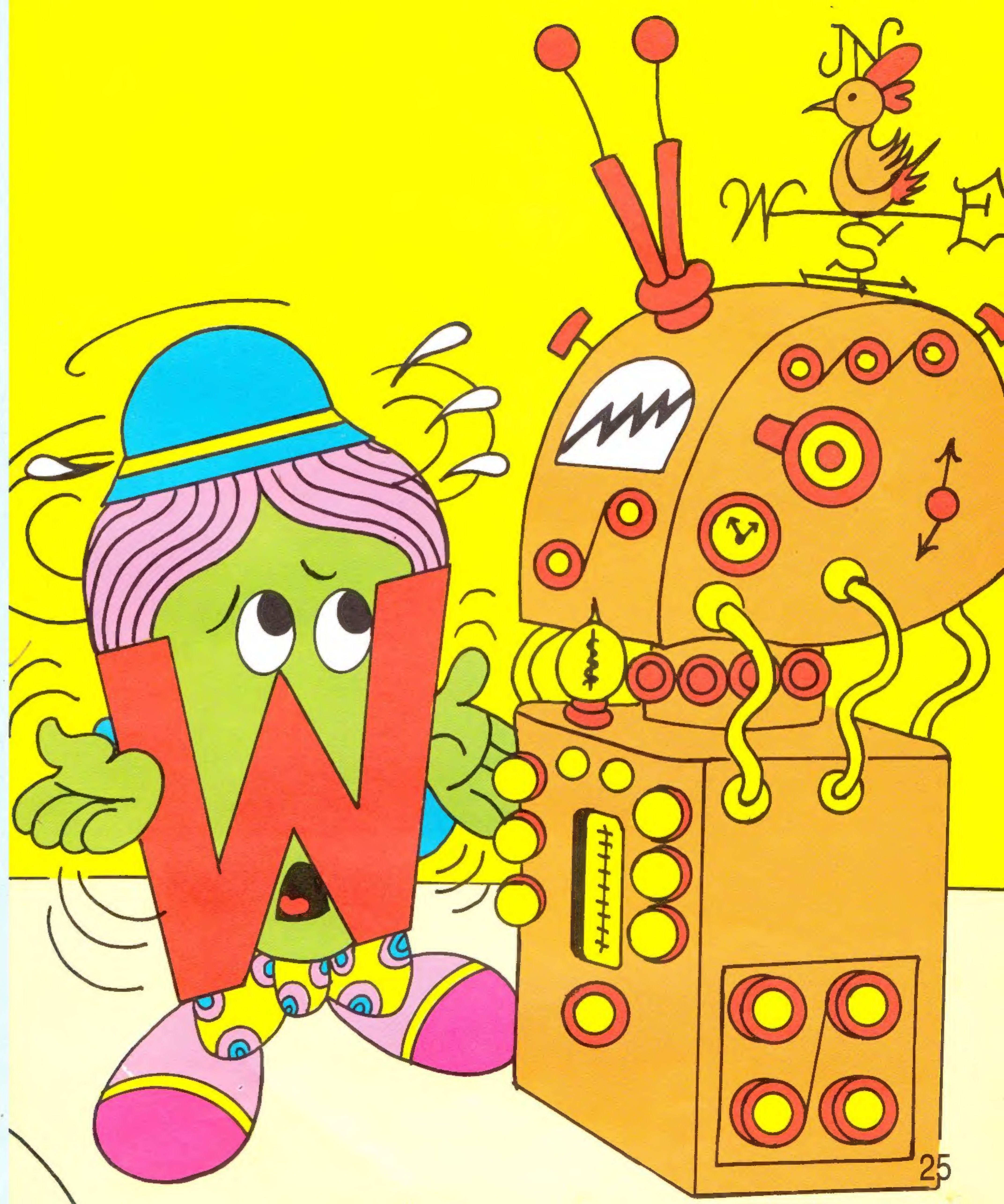
"I will grant your weather wish," says Mr. W very sadly.
"Weather machine, we want a weather wish," he says.
"We want windy weather."
Mr. W winks five wonderful winks.
The weather machine starts to wiggle and wobble.
"Look!" shout the children.
"The wind is blowing and blowing."



Mr. W can grant a wish for windy weather.
However, he never knows how windy it will be.
This time, the wind blows very strongly.
The wind blows dust through all the open windows.
The wind blows so hard, people cannot walk.
Trees are blown down.
The children cannot get home.
Everyone is angry at Mr. W.
“Why did you grant a weather wish for windy weather?”
they ask.
“We do not want windy weather.”



Mr. W does not say a word.
He winks wonderful winks
and changes the weather again.
“I hope the children will think about others
before they ask for weather wishes,” says Mr. W.
A few more weeks pass.
No one asks for a weather wish.
Then people forget to think about each other.
They each want their own selfish weather wish.
Mr. W. cannot make them understand
how wrong they are.



“Granting weather wishes does not work,” says Mr. W.
“It is best for me to leave Letter People Land.”
Mr. W packs his bags and takes the weather machine
outside to his truck.
Suddenly, he sees a crowd of people.
“Mr. W, where are you going?” they ask.
“We want weather wishes.”
“I am leaving Letter People Land,” answers Mr. W.
“Granting weather wishes does not work.
All of you think only of yourselves
when you ask for a wish.”
“Please, Mr. W, do not leave,” beg the people.
“We were selfish, but we will change.”



Suddenly, Mr. W gets something in his eye.
His eye cannot stop winking and winking.
The weather machine wiggles and wobbles.
“Look, it is snowing!” shout the people.
“Please, Mr. W, stop winking.”
Mr. W cannot stop.
The weather machine wiggles and wobbles faster.
It is raining.
It is warm.
It is cold.
It is windy.
It is a weather disaster!
Then the machine starts to fall apart.
Pieces fly everywhere until the machine disappears.
The weather returns to normal.
Finally, Mr. W stops winking.



“Mr. W, we are glad the weather machine is gone,”
says Wendy.

“But we do not want you to go.”

Mr. W winks a wonderful wink.

For a minute everyone is worried.

But the weather does not change.

